



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663
HALIFAX NS
B3J 2T3

November 2003 Volume 64 Number 9

club address: www.halifax-arc.org



And If Winter Comes Can Spring Be Far Behind?



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

See the HARC Web site at: <http://www.halifax-arc.org>

Our executive and committees.

Position Name & Call Sign	Phone #	E-Mail
President - Dick Grantham, VE1AI	434-8046	velai@rac.ca
First V.P. - Fraser MacDougall VE1WO	865-4198	velwo@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT	865-8567	velent@rac.ca
Secretary - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	veldhd@rac.ca
Treasurer - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF	835-6651	veljhf@rac.ca
Member at Large -		
Club Station Mgr. - John Goodwin, VE1CDD	865-5731	velcdd@rac.ca
Past President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	velmr@rac.ca

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Public Relations: Wayne Harasimovitch, VE1WPH	832-3660	velwph@rac.ca
IPARN and Brit Fader Memorial QSL Bureau Manager -		
Bob Burns, VE1VCK	865-9414	velvck@rac.ca
EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP	466-8723	dgeorge@is.dal.ca
Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT	865-8567	velent@rac.ca
Reflector Distribution- Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	velgtc@rac.ca
Membership - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	velgtc@rac.ca
Web page - Rob Ewert, VE1KS,	826-1705	ewetr@hfx.eastlink.ca
Basic ham course Scott Wood, VE1QD,	823-2761	velqd@rac.ca
Callbook 2004 Editor - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	veldhd@rac.ca
EMO Trailer Assembly coord - David Musgrave, VE1EDA	435-4333	veleda@rac.ca
Flea market 2004 Chair' man - NEEDED		
Field Day coordinator - NEEDED		
RAC Asst Director - Wayne Marchand, VE1WJM,	860-1580	velwjm@rac.ca
NSARA Director - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI	861-3719	veltri@rac.ca
Frequency coordinator for Nova Scotia - Bev Reynolds, VE1TL		

The **2003 Annual Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, November 19, 2003 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM), at the former Bloomfield School building (corner of Almon and Agricola streets). The meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Please read the Nominating Committee's items on page 2 of this Reflector and consider whether you could and would serve on the 2003-2004 HARC executive.

At least please plan to attend our Annual meeting and election of the HARC's executive for 2004. Our minimum for quorum is 20 "full members".

NSARA executive for 2003-2004 is:

President - Tom Cohoon, VE1TA
1st VP - Jim Hannon, VE1AFH
Treasurer - Shirley Cohoon,
VE1JFG
Secretary - Bruce Harvey, VE1II

**Deadline for submissions to
the January Reflector is
Saturday, January 10, 2004**

Take-15 Net Controllers

NOTE: There have been some changes.

This will be the rotation.

If you cannot take the net on your particular evening get in touch with one of the others and trade places with them. If I have left any one off the list, or you want to join, please let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.

Nov. 16	Charles VE1MCR	Dec. 28	Dave VE1EDA
Nov. 23	Chris VA1CDB	Jan. 4	Herb VE1HX
Nov. 30	Tom VE1GTC	Jan. 11	Darryl VE1DOH
Dec. 7	Herb VE1HX	Jan. 18	Charles VE1MCR
Dec. 14	Doug VE1LDL	Jan. 25	Chris VA1CDB
Dec. 21	Larry VA1LW		



GENERAL INFORMATION

TAKE-15 NET:

Sunday evenings at 8:30 PM on
VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz +

AMSAT Net: Sunday evenings following the Take 15 Net.

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz +
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz -

PACKET:

VE1NSD - 145.050 MHz LAN NODE
VE1BBS - Local packet BBS
accessible through the LAN

The HARC Christmas Party:

Place: Mandarin Kitchen
189 Herring Cove Road

Date: Wednesday,

December 10, 2003

Time: 6:30 PM for 7:00

for Chinese buffet dinner

Cost: Buffet will be \$11.50 per person including tax. The buffet will consist of 11 items (all the most common Chinese dishes) plus tea or coffee. Pop and other beverages are extra.

A limited Canadian menu is available for those who do not enjoy Chinese food.

Anyone ordering Canadian food, will be billed separately for whatever they order.

There will be a basic cash bar service available.

There is plenty of parking in the parking lot next door to the restaurant and limited parking in front & behind the restaurant itself.

Please let Betty know by Wednesday, December 3, if you plan to attend so numbers can be finalized with the restaurant. Call Betty at 477-7081 or e-mail her at

betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca

Anyone wishing to donate a door prize should also contact Betty.

It's a Boy!! Congratulations to David George, VE1AJP, and Sherry George, VE1WST, on the birth of their son, Ian Reuben George, (not yet licensed) October 30, 2003

**Puzzler – Do You Know?**

The offset between transmitting and receiving frequencies for repeaters operating on 2 meters is 600 kHz.

What is the standard offset for repeaters operating in the 440 MHz band?

Answer on page 8

**HARC Executive Nominating Committee 2004**

That time is upon us once again. Each year we are asked to select and vote for a new slate of officers to manage the affairs of HARC for another term.

If you stop and think about it for just a minute, this is a great opportunity to become part of a Club that has an enviable history and a great future.

HARC has a growing membership, runs a Ham Radio course every year, produces the Maritime Callbook every 3 years, is financially self-sufficient, provides numerous community services, has a club station that is current and functional (not all are), a good working relationship with local governments and much, much more.

This is a testament to the current and previous executive as well as the dedication of the members of the Club. Without a membership that gets involved in the various committees and executive, HARC could never have attained the status it has over the years.

So, what can you do to keep this momentum? Not everyone wants to be on the executive or every committee that comes along. But there are some that do. You may know someone who could do a good job and just needs that little push or encouragement to take the next step. Whether it is to be a part of a committee or on the executive, we need to know who these people are. You, as a member of HARC can nominate an individual for any executive position.

I need your help! Please give me a call or drop me an email with your nomination or thoughts on possible candidates for any of the executive positions. I could call each and every member but that is not nearly as good as relying on you and the people you know much better than I, who would be a valuable member of the HARC executive.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

Bob Swinwood, VE1PQ

E-mail ve1pq@rac.ca

Phone 860-4454



The following are the current nominees for the HARC 2004 Executive that will be presented at the Annual General Meeting on November 19, 2003. You will note that there is ONLY one slot vacant at the moment and will need to be filled via a nomination from the floor during the Annual General Meeting.

Nominations for 2004 HARC Executive

POSITION	NAME	PHONE
President	Bill Elliott (VE1MR)	865-8567
1st VP	Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO)	865-4198
2nd VP	VACANT	
Secretary	Howard Dickson (VE1DHD)	823-2024
Treasurer	John Goodwin (VE1CDD)	865-5731
Station Manager	Pat Kavanaugh (VE1PHK)	479-2530
Member at Large	Tom Caithness (VE1GTC)	477-7081



This is merely a list of individuals that I have determined will let their names stand for the above noted positions. It is still possible to nominate someone or to let your name stand for any one of the Executive positions. Please advise myself of your intentions at anytime up to the call for nominations from the floor of the Annual General Meeting. If more than one person is nominated for a position, a secret ballot will then be held to select a successful candidate.

Bob Swinwood, VE1PQ Chairman HARC Nominating Committee 2004

902-860-4454

Email: ve1pq@rac.ca

PRESIDENT'S NOTES November 2003

How time flies. This is my last submission for the Presidents Notes for the Reflector as my term as President of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club draws to a close this month.

It has been a wonderful year, a remarkable year. I dubbed this year as "The Year of Participation" and it truly resonated. There were many activities launched this year by the Halifax Amateur Radio Club, and it was something else to be witness to the support and participation by you the members of this fine club. I recall some requests for volunteers were met with so much support that there were more volunteers than were required. This is the kind of support that makes for a very enjoyable and healthy club.

The success of those activities is a strong statement of that fact. I can only begin to list them.

- The overwhelming success of the ARISS display at the IMAX theatre thanks to Wayne VE1WPH and all who helped.
- The satellite project, which resulted in a dozen people learning, constructing and using a new satellite station at the club thanks to John, VE1CDD, and again the participants and technical helpers.
- The Downeast Flea Market - much larger than many previous years, a financial and social success beyond expectations, thanks to Ed, VE1EGG, and Dave, VE1NN, and all of their helpers.
- Field Day; "holy propagation Batman", we made the gutsy move of attempting a shot at the new "F" class, and we came not just FIRST in CANADA, but 3rd in North America. We have never placed higher than 10th before in any North American standing. Thanks to John, VE1CDD, for heading it up and the great number of helpers, to say nothing of the poor operators who had to fight the worst propagation ever experienced on any field day. (A QSO with the International Space Station was certainly a highlight). Congratulations to all on that great effort!
- The APRS project which was enjoyed by many and of great benefit to those who joined in and had a great time leaning and developing position reporting systems, which was even put to use in the MS Tour. Thanks to David, VE1EDA, for heading up that one.
- The Ham course was another great success with several new amateurs graduating, and we encourage all new members to keep your membership active and we extend to you all a very warm welcome. Thanks to Tom, VE1GTC, for his efforts over the years and to Scott VE1QD for picking up the torch to continue this fine tradition sponsored by HARC.
- The Callbook preparation is well under way for a spring printing thanks to Howard, VE1DHD, and all of the great volunteers for assisting on this most important club activity.
- I can't stop. You see what I mean about participation. There were also display boards, and a back drop fabricated for Amateur Radio displays for activities like the APCO conference and Flea Markets etc.; there was the climbing safety course; the Christmas Dinner, Ham Breakfast; RAC issues that needed addressing; the Museum Ships on the air, the Terry Fox run, Membership certificates, HARC Business Cards; a wonderful slate of speakers at the meetings, the monthly issues of the Reflector, and on and on.

You accomplished all of this, you the members. It is your club, yours to enjoy, to participate and have fun. When you look at all of this you should all be very proud of what you accomplished.

I must now offer my SINCEREST THANKS to a truly wonderful executive, and committee leaders, who were creative, hard working, dedicated and who made my job very easy. I was simply the conductor. It was the orchestra who created the music. Thanks to each and every one of you for making this a great year for the Halifax Amateur Radio club.

Richard E. Grantham, VE1AI

Dave (VE1NN) says that his personal **IRLP node** has been moved to a better location in Beaver Bank. The frequency is 147.585. Test out your ability to "hit" this repeater by keying up and entering 66.

The **2004 Callbook team** is now well underway in the production of our new callbook and **is seeking assistance** from club members. If you can assist, please contact Darryl Perrin, VE1HUP, at 826-1439 or by email at VE1HUP@rac.ca
Many thanks, Darryl - 73

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teen-ager who wants to stay out all night?

Results of Field Day 2003

All those who paid any attention to Field Day 2003 operating conditions must have heard (or uttered) mutterings about how bad propagation was during the contest. Well, from the official scores we can conclude that everyone, with only a couple of exceptions, must have encountered the same sort of conditions. In our first effort in the brand new 2F category we placed 1st-in Canada, and 3rd in North America in 2F with a score of 5408.



We also came 3rd overall in Canada (all classes)

In the 2A category in which we usually compete the top Canadian entry was VE7RAR, the Richmond ARC, with a score of 4564

Around the World by Radio – Christmas 1932

For some years a series of talks were broadcast over Radio Station CHNS, Halifax, every Sunday at 12:45. William C. Borrett (VE1DD) Station Director of Radio Station CHNS wrote a book "Tales Told Under the Old Town Clock" (first printed December 1942) containing a couple of dozen of these "Tales". One of these is about a broadcast in which CHNS took part on Christmas Day, 1932. It was the first around the world all British Empire broadcast.

On that Christmas morning at the CHNS studios, which were then in the Lord Nelson Hotel, were Lionel Shatford as production & programme manager, Gordon Arthur at the control board and Bill Borrett at the microphone speaking for the Maritime Provinces of Canada. At 10:00 the voice of His Majesty King George the Fifth was heard bearing words of Christmas greeting, broadcast from London, England "to India's north-west frontier, to the isles of the Pacific, the lonely outposts of the Empire, to the populous cities of the Greater Britain overseas, Halifax, Vancouver, Cape Town (South Africa), Melbourne (Australia), to ships' representatives of representative of British craft that ply the seven seas." Except in New Zealand and India the reception was good.

After the King's greeting from London there were a succession of messages from:

Cardiff (Wales), Belfast, Edinburgh & Dublin, then conversation with the White Star Liner, Majestic, at sea about 1000 miles from the North American coast (At the time few British ships were equipped to respond to the greetings they were to receive in this fashion) then Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver. Reception from Wellington, Sydney and Melbourne (Australia) was marred by rather unsatisfactory short-wave conditions between these points and British Columbia. Next Cape Town came in with a good clear signal then a conversation with

the Canadian Pacific Liner Empress of Britain at anchor in Port Said. At last from London King George the Fifth delivered a final message.

While today we may take for granted such miracles as live video feeds from war zones, in 1932 this round the world radio broadcast was an amazing accomplishment.

*A truly happy person is one who
can enjoy the scenery on a detour.*

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, # 40 WORLD'S BROADCASTERS JOIN ANTI-BPL CHORUS

A subcommittee of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

<http://www.itu.org/>

panel of technical experts responsible for terrestrial broadcasting issues has joined a growing chorus of concern about the interference potential of power line telecommunication (PLT) -- or Broadband over Power Line (BPL). ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Sub Working Group (SWG) 6E1 expressed the view that interference produced by systems employing PLT as well as by Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment and short-range devices, would compromise broadcast reception.

"SWG 6E1 is of the opinion that any increase in the amount of noise due to these systems is unacceptable," said a statement from the group's chairman to the chairman of Working Party 6E (WP 6E). "In particular, broadcast services should be protected from unwanted emissions from PLT systems," the panel asserted, "as these emissions are a by-product of a system that is not itself a user of the radio spectrum." The panel recommended the formation of a group representing all users of the radio spectrum "to coordinate development of limits to be imposed on the radiation from these systems."

WP 6E says it will continue to study the effects of PLT/BPL, ISM equipment & short-range devices on terrestrial broadcasting and send the re-

sults to ITU-R WP 1A, which is responsible for spectrum engineering techniques. WP 1A is scheduled to meet in Geneva Oct. 30 to Nov. 5.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed strong support and appreciation for the SWG's conclusions and the ongoing efforts of parent Working Party 6E to study the issue. "If BPL is a problem for broadcasters," Sumner said, "it's easy to see that it would be a disaster for us." Broadcasters themselves also have exhibited increased concern about the potential of PLT/BPL to prevent their signals from reaching listeners. The Research & Development branch of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has released a White Paper

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/rd/pubs/whp/whp067.html>

reporting on a brief trial in Scotland. The 2 competing PLT/BPL systems in operation in the town of Crieff both interfered with HF reception. Tests were conducted at 4 locations.

"The forms of access PLT that were tested in Crieff were found to have demonstrable potential to cause interference to indoor reception of broadcasting in relevant bands," the White Paper concluded. Significant interference even occurred in one residential area with an underground power distribution cable. BBC engineers described the interference as varying between "annoying" and "a level sufficient to make the broadcast completely unintelligible." Before commercially licensing PLT, the report advised, regulators need to undertake further study of other PLT systems and, among other issues, look into possible ways to make the PLT systems compatible with radio reception.

A report prepared by the Australian Communications Authority (ACA), Broadband Powerline Communications Systems--A Background Brief <http://www.aca.gov.au/radcomm/frequency_planning/spps/0311spp.pdf>, concluded that "a potential risk to HF radiocommunications services

(Continued on page 9)



Bill, VE1MR, & Tom, VE1TA, at the Amateur Radio Booth at APCO with our Mobile EMO Repeater trailer and laptop PC's showing APRS, shots of Hurricane Juan's effects and Slow-Scan TV. Captioned photos are displayed on the backdrop. (Wayne, VE1WPH, had borrowed this backdrop as our carpet is still back ordered)

October. 8, 9, 2003 HRM hosted the 2003 **APCO** (Association of Professional Communications Officers) Conference.

The amateur radio community has brought to emergency situations not only the radio com skills of our hobby but also a wide variety of other abilities that have helped will help EMO Coordinator Barry Manuel deal with emergencies in our HRM.

In recognition/appreciation of our help in emergencies Amateur Radio had a free booth at the Trade Show in the Halifax World Trade & Convention Center.

Dave, VE1AJP, coordinated a number of ham volunteers who

- manned our booth,
- manned a "Dispatch Station" in the WTCC and
- acted as informal ambassadors to the visiting Communications Officers



The EMO Repeater trailer is getting to be rather well traveled. Photographed (top left) as a "static" display at the APCO Trade Show, (bottom left) as a ham-frequency repeater during the 2003 MS Bike-Tour (with David, VE1EDA, taking what shade he can get under a canopy stretched between his van and the trailer) and (bottom right) supporting antenna for our Field Day operation at the EOC. It also visited the Mt. Edward Rd. tower site Monday evening, post-Juan (no photo available)



A Telescope Special Event station will operate November 21-23 from the Sutherland Observatory in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa (call sign ZS1SALT). All HF frequencies will be used on phone, CW and digital modes

Halifax Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the General Monthly Meeting of October 22nd, 2003.

(postponed from October 15 because of severe weather)

The meeting was called to order at 1942 Wednesday, October 22nd, 2003 by President Dick (VE1AI) with 23 members in attendance.

Executive in attendance:

Past-President Bill Elliott (VE1MR); President Dick Grantham (VE1AI); First Vice-President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO); Second Vice-President Lynn Bowser (VE1ENT); Treasurer Jeremy Fowler (VE1JHF); Station Manager John Goodwin (VE1CDD), and Secretary Howard Dickson (VE1DHD).

Silent Keys: The passing of Radio Amateurs: Barry Townsend (VE1QN); John Daley (VE1JED) and Harry Grant, VE1ALJ was observed with a moment of silence.

Guests: Dave Goodwin (VO1AU) from St. John's Newfoundland; Bob Jeffery (VA1TX) of Timberlea; and John Hopkins Basic Course participant and Associate Member introduced by Scott Wood (VE1QD).

New Members: Returning member Jim Smith (VE1SFX)

Minutes of the September meeting – Approval of the minutes as published in the HARC Reflector was moved by Bill (VE1MR) and seconded by Bob (VE1PQ). Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Jeremy (VE1JHF) reported a bank balance of \$1,846.34. Approval of the report by the treasurer was moved by George (VE1GAB) and seconded by Terry (VE1TRB).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Search & Rescue – Dave (VE1AJP) reported on a search for two missing cyclists who had taken their bikes cross-country through the woods. Many fallen trees in the wake of hurricane Juan hampered the search which was successful.

EMO – Dave (VE1AJP) reported on the contribution of Radio Amateurs from the Halifax Metro area who

staffed the Emergency Operations Centre at the EMO in Dartmouth on Sunday October 5th when Juan struck Halifax, and through most of the following week until the state of emergency was officially lifted. While there was not a general callout of Radio Amateurs to assist in the aftermath of Juan, a number of Amateurs were placed on standby at critical points when generator fuel was running low at the QEII Health Science Centre and at the North Street communication substation. Dave reported that the potential for the loss of all phone and TMR communications in the area was real and significant as the fuel supply for the North Street generator came within minutes of running out.

Dave also reported on a very successful conference of the Association of Professional Communication Officers (APCO). This group met at the World Trade and Convention Centre on October 6 through 8, and several Radio Amateurs volunteered to assist the organizing committee. The Halifax Club, along with NSARA and RAC provided a display to promote our hobby, with a focus on emergency preparedness and public service. There was significant interest from across the country on how Halifax HAMS have assisted in recent local disasters.

Club Station Report – John (VE1CDD) reported that everything is in order in the Club station, including the antennas on the roof, which came through Juan without any serious problems. John mentioned that he had been expecting some Boy Scouts to use the Club Station again this year to participate in JOTA – Jamboree on the Air; however, there was no contact with the Club this year.

Finally, John reported the purchase of a used CW "bug" for use in the Club Station by Amateurs wishing to upgrade from a Basic to Code license.

Membership – Tom (VE1GTC) reported that the final membership total for 2003 was 124 members, but that 19 members have already paid

up for 2004. Jim Smith was one of the latter who rejoined the Club at the meeting.

Public Relations – Wayne (VE1WPH) reported on the delay in finishing the Club display frame. The delay is linked to delivery problems of the fabric backing for the display. It is hoped to have the display completely finished soon. Wayne reported that he had been invited to participate at the upcoming meeting of the Association of Nova Scotia Science Teachers. He will set up a modest display of Amateur Radio and the International Space Station. Wayne also reported on the success that he has had working with students at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in the development of sophisticated graphics for the new ARISS brochures.

Basic HAM Course – Scott (VE1QD) reported that there are twelve students registered for the Basic Course this year. The youngest is 15 and the oldest 70 years of age. The younger student is a cancer survivor and was attracted to Amateur Radio because the bone-marrow graft that he received came from a HAM in Alberta. Scott also reported that because of illness, John (VE1DD) is unable to offer his assistance with the CW course as he has over the past number of years. However, Don Waters (VE1BN) has stepped into the breach and will be offering this course this year. The CW group will meet in the Club Station from 10 to 12 noon each Saturday morning, starting Saturday October 25th.

Callbook 2004 – Howard (VE1DHD) reported that the production team for the 2004 edition of the Maritime Provinces Callbook is now in place. He was very pleased with the positive responses that he had to his request for assistance on this important Club project. The "Team" will meet in the Club Station on Monday October 27th for a planning meeting. In the mean time, Howard is collecting updates from Clubs around the Maritimes and Bill (VE1MR) is collecting individual update from amateurs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Letters to lapsed members – Howard (VE1DHD) reported that the letters were signed and mailed last week by the First Vice-President in the absence of the President. The plan is to have members of the Executive follow up over the next few weeks with targeted phone calls.

Boat Show 2004 – Wayne (VE1WPH) reported that he is discussing a possible collaboration with MMOS (Marine Mail Order Supply) to share (at no cost to the Club) some booth space at the 2004 Boat Show in order to promote Ham Radio and the benefits to boaters. Win agreed to follow up on this with Wayne.

Nominating Committee Chair Report – Bob (VE1PQ) appealed for nominations for key positions on the Club Executive.

Christmas Party – Betty (VE1BSW) reported on the date and location of the Club Christmas party. It will take place at the Mandarin Kitchen, 189 Herring Cove Rd. on Wednesday December 10th – 6:30 for 7:00. Call Betty at 477-7081 or e-mail her at betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca to reserve your spot. The cost for the Chinese buffet will be \$11.50 including tax. A selection of Canadian dishes priced separately will also be available for those who prefer.

2003 Field Day Report – Bill (VE1MR) reported that in spite of dreadful band conditions, the Halifax ARC, operating for the first time in the new F-class (operation out of an official EMO facility), achieved a first-placing standing in Canada and third overall in North America. The whole Field Day Team is to be congratulated on a JOB WELL DONE. The decision was made at the September meeting to return to the 2-Alpha class for 2004.

NEW BUSINESS:

HARC Web Site – there was concern expressed that the HARC web site is becoming stale-dated because information is not being passed on in a timely fashion to Rob (VE1KS) the Club webmaster.

Pat (VE1PHK) agreed to assist Rob with the web site. Members are urged to pass on information and pictures to Rob for posting.

Presentation – Wayne (VE1WPH) and Bill (VE1MR) were presented with a QSL card from the International Space Station for their 2-meter contact with the ISS during the final

hours of Field Day this year. The card will be framed and hung within the Club Station for all to appreciate.

Announcements: Jim (VE1SFX) reported that Dave (VE1EI) had suffered the total loss of his trailer home during Juan. A team of helpers plan to meet on Saturday to assist Dave in the cleanup of the site. Jim urged Club members to help Dave out.



Door Prize – the prize was a hands-free flashlight and was won by John (VE1CDD).

50:50 Draw – the prize was won by John (VE1CDD).

What are the ODD of a clean sweep??



On a motion by Bill (VE1MR), the meeting adjourned at 2110.

Entertainment: Rob (VE1KS) was the designated speaker for the evening. Rob spoke about the exciting work side-line that he has developed with an American TV production company that specialized in TV coverage of sports events where the event is run over vast distances, challenging the production team to follow all of the action and get the pictures from remote sites – like the back of a fast moving motor cycle or a helicopter – back to a central remote production trailer.

Respectfully submitted
by Howard (VE1DHD)

**DX Packet Cluster**

The DX Packet Cluster is temporarily now available. There are several ways to access the DX Cluster. Connect to VE1NSD on 145.050 and the use port 1 to connect to VE1DXC, the command is

C 1 VE1DXC (remember the spaces.)

If you connect to VE1BBS-7 then do a

C 3 VE1DXC (again remember the spaces).

Also you can telnet into the DX cluster at ve1dx.no-ip.com and set your telnet program to use port 7300.

Due to the current set up VE1DXC does not show up in the nodes list, this is hopefully temporary and may be rectified in the next month or so. Give it a try and see what is happening in the DX world



Logbook of the World (LoTW)

Electronic logging and QSO confirmation (eQSL) have just taken a giant step forward. The ARRL has been quietly beta-testing a new electronic logging system that allows users – for a very nominal fee – to confirm contacts electronically for ARRL awards.

The system apparently works well and as of September 15th, 2003 it became available for general use.

Here's how it works

Users upload their logs – LoTW will accept contacts as far back as 1945 – in either ADIF or Cabrillo format. The authenticity of the submitted log is assured by the encoded digital signature that the operator applies to the file when submitting it. In order to obtain a digital signature, users must first become certified by obtaining a digital certificate from ARRL. Each entry in the submitted log is then checked and compared to all other entries in the LoTW database. If a match is found the entry in the logs of both parties is confirmed for award purposes. Amateurs are then eligible to apply the confirmed QSO towards an award. There is no cost associated with the uploading of QSO files, however there is a cost associated with applying confirmed QSOs towards awards. Confirmed QSO credits must be purchased at a nominal fee, well below the cost of confirmation by mail, and it is quite likely that it will turn out to be even less expensive than using the current "Bureau" System.

How to get certified

Canadians are required mail in to ARRL a copy of their Amateur Radio license in addition to a copy of one other government-issued document indicating his/her identity – such as a

driver's license. A confirmation certificate will be emailed to you.

How to get started

Although at the time of writing this article (10 October 2003) I had not yet started the process, it looks quite straight forward. The best thing to do is to go to the ARRL LoTW website – <http://www.arrl.org/lotw/> to get all the details.

However, in a nutshell, here is what you need to do:

1. Download the TrustedQSL software from the ARRL LoTW site above;
2. Submit a request for a digital certificate;
3. Use the certificate to "sign" files that are submitted (in either ADIF or Cabrillo format) to ARRL;
4. You then receive confirmation of file receipt and you are able to log onto the LoTW site to review your files and to see which QSOs have been confirmed.

Making the system work

It is becoming a "brave new world" out there for Radio Amateurs. Many of us have been using eQSL.cc now for some time to electronically log and confirm QSOs. The problem is that the eQSL.cc system has no way of authenticating submissions and so ARRL has not and will not accept these confirmed QSOs for ARRL awards. The new LoTW system is the next step towards total electronic logging and QSO confirmation. However, many Amateurs still don't and won't have access to a computer and/or the internet, and both are required in order to participate in the LoTW system. So, paper logs and QSL cards will not disappear anytime soon. However, you can do your part to ensure that this new initiative is successful by taking the time to upload your electronic logbook to the LoTW site.

from Howard Dickson – VE1DHD

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 43
October 31, 2003

Radio Amateurs of Canada asks Industry Canada to drop Morse requirement: At the 21st Industry Canada-Radio Amateurs of Canada Amateur Radio Advisory Board meeting October 23 in Ottawa, RAC presented its Board-approved recommendation to drop Morse code as an Amateur Radio qualification requirement. Other topics raised at the session included options for consideration related to 4-character call sign suffixes; RAC's submission to the Committee on the National Antenna Tower Policy Review; and RAC's efforts to bring more young people into Amateur Radio through the RAC Youth Education Program, which was introduced and discussed. Industry Canada invited RAC to submit detailed proposals on dropping Morse code and the use of 4-character call signs. Industry Canada expressed appreciation to RAC for its prompt and comprehensive response to the department's request for input on significant changes to regulations arising out of the WRC-2003 decisions. Representing RAC was President Bill Gillis, VE1WG, Vice President-Regulatory Affairs Jim Dean, VE3IQ, and directors David Nimmo, VE1NN, and BJ Madsen, VE5FX.


From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 42,
For news about the **mounting solar activity:**

MSNBC <<http://www.msnbc.com/news/984388.asp?cp1=1>>

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer
http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/national/144998_solar23.html

The Honolulu Advertiser
<<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2003/Oct/23/ln/ln14a.html>>

and The Huntsville Times
<http://www.al.com/news/huntsvilletimes/index.ssf?/base/news/1066931170176140.xml>

 **Answer to puzzler on page 2**

The offset for repeaters operating in the 440 MHz band is 5Mhz

*Two aerial antennas met on a roof,
fell in love and got married.
The ceremony wasn't much, but the
reception was excellent.*

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 43
 Newfoundland clubs establish VHF transatlantic beacon: The Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland <<http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~jcraig/mrcn.html>> and the Baccalieu Amateur Radio Club of Carbonear have placed a VHF transatlantic beacon on the air. The VO1ZA beacon transmits on 144.400 MHz. "This beacon has been brewing for a number of years and we're happy it's finally on the air," said Joe Craig, VO1NA, who built the exciter board and the CW IDer. The transmitter runs 250W and the power amp previously served the VE1SMU beacon. The antenna is an 11-element Cushcraft Yagi fed with half-inch hardline. The repeater site, in the town of Carbonear, is in the middle of a large field at a turkey farm with a clear view of the North Atlantic Ocean through the mouth of Conception Bay on the southeastern coast of Newfoundland. The antenna is at about 300 feet above sea level. Amateur stations hearing this beacon are asked to report to Joe Craig, VO1NA, vo1na@rac.ca, describing in detail what they copied.

REMINDER

Have you changed your address? Got a new call sign? Have you renewed your HARC membership for 2004 yet? Please use the form at the bottom of this page and send to Membership Chairman

Tom Caithness, VE1GTC, .
 24 Feldspar Cres.
 Halifax, NS B3R 2M2

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, # 40, 73 MAGAZINE "73 AND QRT"

After completing 43 years of publication, 73 Amateur Radio Today magazine is calling it quits. The September 2003 issue was the magazine's last. According to self-proclaimed "El Supremo and Founder" Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD, it was a simple matter of economics.

The 1st issue of 73 was published in Oct. 1960. The magazine was a pioneer promoter of SSB, FM, solid-state, easy construction projects and the marriage of personal computing and Amateur Radio.

Green says he'll continue his essays on his Web site

<<http://www.waynecgreen.com>>

(Continued from page 4)

from the widespread use of broadband powerline communications systems" appeared to exist. Citing BPL trials in the US, Europe & Asia, the ACA brief said, "results of these trials have not alleviated concerns over the potential interference risk to radiocommunications."

ARRL's comments

<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-104/>

reply comments

<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-104/reply-comments-index.html>

Technical exhibits filed with the FCC are available on the ARRL Web site. See also the article "BPL is a Pandora's Box of Unprecedented Proportions, ARRL Tells FCC"

<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2003/07/08/1/>

For more info & video clips see ARRL "Power Line Communications (PLC) & Amateur Radio" page

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>

We are responsible for what we do, unless we are celebrities.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please check ☐ Registration ☐ Same address as last year ☐ New address

Callsign _____ Previous Callsign (if applicable) _____

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Street Address

Mailing Address

City/Town _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____ Telephone _____

Fees: ☐ Full Member (\$25.00) ☐ Associate member (Non Voting) (\$15.00)

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☐ Family Membership (2 members) = \$35 (+ \$10 for each additional family member at the same address; only 1 newsletter)

Dues for the 2004 calendar year Amount submitted \$ _____

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 41, October 17, 2003

Annobón Island 3C0V Team Was Given Just Hours To Leave

The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> reports this week that the Annobón Island 3C0V DXpedition <<http://personal.telefonica.terra.es/web/ea5yn/>> team was given just a few hours to leave Oct. 4 after the island's military commander reportedly objected to the Amateur Radio operators' presence. The 3C0V operation began Sept. 26, and had intended to continue until Oct. 11.

Before the shutdown, the 4-member group logged numerous contacts on 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters. The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, spoke October 12 with team member Franz Langner, DJ9ZB, now safely home in Germany.

"Franz says the 3C0V crew met with the governor of the island and the head of the military on their arrival there. At that time they had the approval to operate from both of these officials. Gifts were even presented.. The group had a "proper license" and landing permit good for 2 years.

"On Saturday Oct. 4, at 10 AM local they were told they had 2 to 3 hours to take everything down and be ready to leave," McClenny said. The demand came from the military commander of the island. A news update on the 3C0V Web site said military authorities frequently had interrupted the DXpedition.

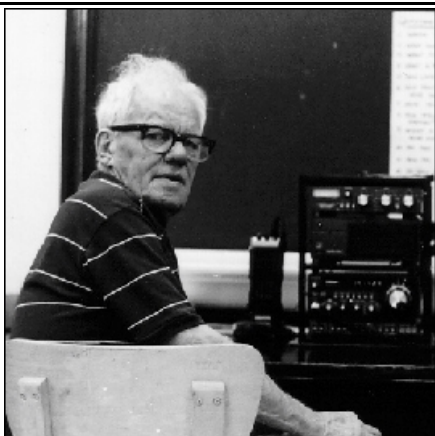
After dismantling the equipment & antennas and leaving nothing behind all 4 operators boarded a plane to Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea.

Part of Equatorial Guinea, Annobón, is located in the Gulf of Guinea off Africa's west coast. The other 3C0V operators have since returned home and are reported OK.

The 3C0V logs reportedly are safe and expected to eventually be loaded onto the 3C0V Web page. (The DXCC Desk has not yet approved the 3C0V DXpedition for DXCC.)

Brit Fader Scholarship Fund Trustees Slate for the year 2003-2004.

Paul Radford, VE1ARH
Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF
Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT
Bill Elliott, VE1MR
Bob Burns, VE1VCK
Bob Swinwood, VE1PQ



Brit Fader Scholarship Trust

The Brit Fader Scholarship Trust was established after the death of, and in honour of Brit Fader, that grand old man of amateur radio in Nova Scotia. The aim of the scholarship fund is to provide scholarships using the yearly income from the money in the trust to benefit amateur radio operators who wish to pursue further education.

We are still in the process of building the capital base of the trust fund. Donations to the Brit Fader Scholarship Trust are tax deductible.

Send the form and your donation to:

Brit Fader Scholarship Trust c/o Halifax Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 663
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T3

Donation Form – Brit Fader Scholarship Trust

I direct that the enclosed gift to the Brit Fader Scholarship Trust, Registration Number 0984971-25, (and Any property into which it is converted) be held for a period of not less than 10 years. This permits the Trust to keep my donation as capital and use the interest for scholarships

Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____ Name of donor: _____
(Please Print)

Address of donor: _____
(Please Print) _____

Check box below

☐ If in-memoriam donation for: NAME : _____ CALL: _____

Make cheque payable to : Brit Fader Scholarship Trust
(an official Income Tax receipt will be issued)

Signature of donor _____